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RHINE RIVER IS CROSSED NEAR MAINZ AND WESEL

Vigorous German Counteraction Under Way Against Enemy Reaching East Bank

Domei

BERLIN, March 24.—Fighting on the Western Front has entered upon a new stage owing to two successful crossing of the Rhine by Allied forces in the past 24 hours at two points very far apart from one another—on the northern wing of the Western Front on either side of Wasel and in the southern section between Mainz and Worms. No German report so far has been issued giving details, but heavy fighting is raging at both bridgeheads. Lively fighting is taking place also in the lower reaches of the Sieg River, in the western foothills of the Westerwald and in the Neuwied area of the Remagen bridgehead. The troops of the 1st American army are incessantly attacking the town of Siegburg, but their efforts, so far, have been in vain. On the southern fringe of the Remagen bridgehead, the Americans fought their way into the Neuwied area.

The German garrison at Mainz is holding out against great numerical odds. Heavy fighting is also going in the Ludwigsh area. The Germans there are combating the American spearheads in the northern and southwestern districts of the town and both sides have sustained heavy losses. In the Palatinate area to the southwest the Americans are trying to reach the Rhine. Their strong pressure on either side of Landau, however, yielded no essential change in the situation.

On the lower and central Rhine the Allied troops crossed the river on Friday and during the night from Friday to Saturday after the most heavy artillery fire. The first crossing was made on Friday between Mainz and Worms at Oppenheim which is in a line with Darmstadt. The bridgehead which the formations of the 3rd American army were able to form there is being exposed to heavy German counterattack. The second crossing was made on either side of Wesel.

Heavy artillery fire and ample use of artificial smoke-screen along the whole front between Xanton and Wesel in the past 24 hours have indicated beforehand that a major attack was being planned. On Friday afternoon artillery fire assumed the strength of a barrage and in the evening hours the first boats crossed the river. The German defense inflicted heavy losses on the enemy, but he was able to gain a foothold on either side of Wesel. Vigorous German counteractions are now under way there.

U.S. Paying High Toll

Most bitter fighting is still raging on the Western Front in the area of the American bridgehead east of Remagen into which General Hodges, as may be assumed, has now pumped three tank divisions and four to five infantry divisions, the main body of his 8th American army, reports Alex Schmalfuss, DNB war correspondent. The German artillery massed around the bridgehead is pouring a continual rain of shells into the battle and is hitting hard worth while targets at the points of crossing where the American supply is congested. Attacks and counterattacks are being interchanged.

Against the tenacious German resistance they have not yet been able to achieve a largescale breakthrough. All successes which the Americans were able to score had to be paid for with so much blood and with such high material losses that the heavy weight is threatening their supply situation. It is not exaggerated to state that the Remagen bridgehead is from day to day being transformed more and more into a huge American graveyard. With particular tenacity the American formations tried to pave a way for their tank groups toward Siegburg plain by ramming thrusts. In this attempt they are being supported by superior air forces. The fanatical resistance of the Germans must therefore be valued all the higher who are resisting their attackers everywhere with grim determination.

Roosevelt's Nominee Rejected

Domei

LISBON, March 23.—The United States Senate today rejected the appointment by President Roosevelt of Aubrey Williams as Administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration by a vote of 52 to 36, a Washington dispatch revealed. Williams has been one of Roosevelt's henchmen since the New Deal.

Spanish Gov't Ceases To Function on Behalf Of Nippon's Interests

Domei

MADRID, March 24.—The Spanish Government announced today that it had ordered all Spanish diplomatic representatives abroad to cease representing Japanese interests. A Berlin report said that the German Government had sent a memorandum to the Spanish Government informing the latter that its action, which was unfavorable to Japan, would be regarded as an unfriendly act.

SOVIET FORCES SUCCEED IN REACHING DANZIG GULF

Red Army Scores Gains at Zoppot But Is Foiled in Frische Haff Area

Domei

BERLIN, March 24.—Fighting on the Eastern Front continues to center in Upper Silesia, the Gulf of Danzig area and in East Prussia. The Soviets succeeded in making a penetration to the Gulf of Danzig at Zoppot, but south of Frische Haff, on the other hand, all their attempts at reaching the coast failed. In Upper Silesia their gains were small.

The Soviet onslaught at Danzig and Gotenhafen increased in intensity in the past 24 hours, when they scored several penetrations at Zoppot and in another sector. No details were given by the German military authorities about the fighting at Zoppot which the Soviets have reported as taken. One hundred and nine Soviet tanks were crippled in the past 24 hours in the fighting at Danzig.

The Germans warded off all attempts of the Red Army forces to break through at the front south of Frische Haff, and a slight penetration on the left wing was shattered in front of the German positions. While calm continued to reign at Stettin, the Soviets tried to expand their bridgehead on either side of Kuestrin. Sixty-six Soviet tanks were crippled there by the German ground forces, while 20 were knocked out by the Luftwaffe.

In Upper Silesia fierce fighting flared up again when the Soviets tried to break through the German zones on a broad front between Bauerwitz and the Neisse, but they scored only slight territorial gains, losing 112 tanks.

Meanwhile, the Soviets launched a big attack on Kuestrin with several rifle divisions and one tank brigade, with the intention of depriving the Oder front of this German fortress. In this area, strong Soviet attacks are directed from east to west as well as from north to south.

In the course of heavy and furious defense fighting the German formations have thus far succeeded in annihilating the Soviet tank brigade. Fighting, however, is still going on.

It may nevertheless be stated already today that the attack will not be successful. It is true that Kuestrin was temporarily cut off from its western approaches, but these routes can be reopened again as the fortress still remains in German hands.

GERMANY ESTABLISHING NEW DEFENSE BULWARKS

Aims to Delay Decision Until Right Moment Comes in Race Against Time

Domei

BERLIN, March 24.—The military situation in the west and in the east is still characterized by the establishment of new German fronts, the military spokesman of the Wilhelmstrasse declared today in the course of a short commentary on the present war situation.

The spokesman pointed to the fact that the establishment of new German fronts is being effected at all vital points, adding that the German command has adopted the strategy of inflicting upon the enemy in the east and in the west the heaviest losses possible.

The German command, the spokesman continued, is attaching particular importance to the time factor in its strategy of checking the anti-Axis advance. In this connection he stressed that the anti-Axis forces are rather hard pressed as regards their timetable, and that the food situation in Europe and also in Britain is becoming more critical.

This race against time is the most important factor for the time being. Germany is endeavorng to delay a decision until the moment when she can employ additional personnel, material and tactical means of war, the spokesman declared.

TURKISH-SOVIET TALKS LOOM FOR NEW TREATY

Parley May Be Held in Moscow Soon, Kimchi Hits Kremlin's Move

Domei

LISBON, March 24.—Negotiations between Moscow and Ankara for a new Pact of Friendship and Neutrality may be commenced shortly, according to an Ankara report reaching here. The representatives of the Turkish Government might proceed to Moscow shortly for this purpose, the report added.

Soviet Aim Seen

Domei

ZURICH, March 24.—The Soviet request that the Turkish foreign policy be adapted to the Kremlin's foreign political course rather than demands for privileges in the Dardanelles may be addressed by Moscow to Ankara following its giving notice for the abrogation of the Soviet-Turkish Treaty of Friendship and Neutrality, diplomatic circles have explained to the Stockholm correspondent of the Die Tat. Moscow might, for instance, ask Turkey to cease from trying to build up an anti-Slav bloc and from coming into closer contact with Greece as desired by Britain, those circles believe.

Solution Said Difficult

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 23.—British political circles are not very clear about the effects of the abrogation of the Soviet-Turkish Treaty of Amity and Neutrality, as the real intentions of the Soviet Union in denouncing the treaty still remain obscure. The same circles are, however, agreed in the observation that the abrogation of the pact is a move to secure a favorable position for the Soviet Union regarding the questions of the Dardanelles and the Danube delta, by off-setting the influence of the British and by exerting pressure on Turkey.

John Kimchi, Reuter correspondent, took up the Soviet-Turkish question again today, reporting as follows:

Political observers in London do not regard the Soviet denunciation of its treaty of amity and neutrality with Turkey as a step very helpful for the future development of affairs. If a new Soviet-Turkish treaty is to be concluded, Ankara political circles opine, the Montreux convention regarding the Dardanelles will be ignored, and the pledges given and taken on the subject will not receive full consideration.

This narrows the chance of solving the eastern Mediterranean questions, in which Britain is vitally interested. The separate treatment of the questions of the straits, the control of the Danube delta, and the disposal of the Dodecanese Islands is now hardly possible.

Neither Britain nor the Soviet Union nor the United States may now talk separately with Turkey on any of these questions. There is little ground for Ankara's hope that the Soviet-Turkish question can be solved by the two countries directly concerned.

86TH DIET SESSION ENDS

Closing Rites Due Today; Program For Full War Basis Set

With the 86th session of the Imperial Diet having carried out its mission of deliberating on and passing measures to deal with the situation, the closing ceremony of the Diet will be held today.

Among the notable expressions made during the Diet session was the determination voiced by Prime Minister General Kuniaki Koiso, War Minister Field Marshal Gen Sugiyama and Navy Minister Admiral Mitsumasa Yonai to win the decisive battle of the homeland and to launch offensive operations for the recovery of the lost islands. Outstanding among the measures passed were the Military Special Measures Law and the amendment to the House of Representatives election law in connection with the political participation of the Chosenese and the Taiwanese. With the Diet session having laid out a program for a full war structure, the swift and effective prosecution of the program is being expected.

Anglo-U.S. Delegates to Confer

Domei

LISBON, March 23.—British and Dominion delegates to the San Francisco Conference will meet the American delegates preceding the conference and will discuss various problems, it was announced by Joseph Grew, United States Undersecretary of State, today, according to a Washington report.

Pope Pius XII Expresses Firm Opposition To Anglo-U.S. Espoused World Peace Plan

Domei

ZURICH, March 23.—Pope Pius XII is opposed to the future world peace structure as planned by the anti-Axis nations for their own profit, it was indicated by His Holiness, himself, in a speech on March 18. Obviously referring to President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill, he said that the leading politicians of the world could not deceive God even if they succeeded in mocking their own people.

At a service in which he offered a prayer for peace, His Holiness indirectly but strongly criticized the principles being set up by the anti-Axis nations in respect to a world peace structure. His criticism, which is held to have been directed chiefly against the decisions of the Crimea Conference, has jolted various anti-Axis quarters.

Although the papal attack is held to have been directed chiefly against the anti-Axis disposal of the Polish issue, informed quarters point out that his words were too strong merely to be an expression of dissatisfaction against the new partition of Poland. Informed quarters are said to be perplexed as to the right interpretation of the motive for the outburst. Some circles have interpreted the Pope's speech to mean that His Holiness does not desire the eternal control of the world by the anti-Axis and that he repudiates the entire anti-Axis conception in regard to the postwar world.

The Pope declared in effect; "As long as peace is decided in contradiction to truth, justice and loyalty, it will be impossible to bring about harmony among the various peoples. We would even wish to view the situation as such that certain persons have succumbed to temptation and, ignoring justice, are setting up a peace structure for the future for their own profit. Such persons who have yielded to temptation may be applauded today, but soon they will leave their names behind in history as persons who misled their peoples at the most serious time and as traitors to mankind. The leading politicians of the world can not deceive God even though they succeed in mocking their own peoples."

KOISO STRESSES BIG ROLE OF NEW VOLUNTEER UNITS

Combined Efforts of 100,000,000 Loyal People Will Pave Way to Victory

Exhorting the people to give their all for the defense of the homeland, Prime Minister General Kuniaki Koiso, in a statement issued on Saturday in connection with the Government decision to form a national volunteer force, declared that the action of this force would pave the way to victory.

Prime Minister Koiso said:

My 100,000,000 fellow-countrymen! The enemy has already reached our front door. The situation with which we are confronted is without parallel in history. Indeed, we are at a parting of the ways. It is time that we roused ourselves to action. It is time that we united under the principle of universal conscription, and armed ourselves thoroughly, in order to safeguard the Land of Gods.

It is the power which has come down to us from our remote ancestors that is our hope today when the war situation is dangerous. We have no choice but to unite and ram the invaders.

Prepare for New Structure

The Government has decided to organize the people into a volunteer corps. Through it the Government intends to strengthen defense and increase production. In the meantime, the Government will complete preparations for the construction of a structure enabling the people to take up arms in defense of the country in case of necessity.

The Government has it in mind to create a condition of victory under which all the people, conscious of the responsibility to share in the work of carrying the war through to its end, will be only too glad to take part in the defense of the land.

To take up arms and make a charge is not all which must be done by the people by way of keeping the enemy away from their land. We can make sure of defending the land successfully if we carry out satisfactorily all measures necessary for the increase of the production of munitions and foodstuffs, the strengthening of the transport system, and other wartime enterprises behind the guns, in addition to carrying on operations against the enemy.

The students have already left their studies in order to help increase fighting power. The men whose services have been requisitioned by the Government and those who have banded themselves into attack corps are sacrificing their lives in order to help to win the war. I hear war cries from the lips of those sufferers from the effects of the air attacks of the enemy against Japan. There is the spirit of sure victory throughout the country. When this spirit and the will to work is concentrated, and when the people are controlled and trained so that they may make themselves helpful to the defense of the country from air attack, to the extension of the production of foodstuffs, to the construction of forts and other defense positions, to the warlike operations of the army and naval units, to the maintenance of order, and to the overcoming of all adverse conditions for the successful defense of the country there is sure to arise in the hearts of the people the great fighting power and the strong defending power which are necessary to win the war.

"With these preparations we shall be able to shift to a structure in which we will be able to take up arms and destroy the enemy if he should ever land on a corner of the country and a part of our homeland is turned into a battlefield. I am firm in my faith that the fighting will of my compatriots at this time of unprecedented crisis is already tremendous. The situation is such that voices are raised in demand that the Government show the way for the people to bring to bear their tremendous fighting power in order to contribute to the successful prosecution of the war.

"Now we have an organization in which all of the people can join the war and unite to carry out their responsibilities of defending the homeland. I have full trust in the loyalty of the people and believe that they will join the volunteers and drive forward for the defense of the nation with the spirit that they are fighting under a hail of bullets on the first lines. I believe that with all of the 100,000,000 people forgetting self and giving their all for the defense of the nation and for production, our fighting power for absolute victory will grow still greater, the defenses of our homeland become still stronger and the way to victory open before us."

FRANCE CLARIFIES STAND ON WORLD SECURITY PLAN

Memorandum for S.F. Meeting Handed to All Anti-Axis Envoys in Paris

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, March 23.—The French Government published today a 2,000-word memorandum and detailed text of its suggested amendment for the World Security plan to be discussed at the San Francisco Conference, according to a Paris report. The memorandum and the amendments were handed to all anti-Axis ambassadors and ministers in Paris yesterday. The members of the United Nations who are not yet represented in France received the text through French Ambassador in London Rene Massigli.

The amendments to the Dumbarton Oaks decision suggested by the French Government are aimed to give to the planned organization greater reliability and efficiency. Among the main points underlined by the French Government, the first one deals with the procedure of voting. The second suggestion is that, in cases of urgent danger of aggression, emergency measures provided for by treaties concluded by members of the international organization and notified by them to the Security Council must be allowed to function and coercive measures taken in compliance with such regional pacts independently of prior agreements.

France also asks that the national forces belonging to all the services be permanently placed at the disposal of the Security Council and, if necessary, be stationed in security zones.

Finally, France wishes for the extension of the Council's economic and social authorities and the establishment of similar organizations, notably for the distribution of raw materials.

Bidault Clarifies Stand

Meanwhile, in his speech on France's foreign policy made before the Consultative Assembly yesterday, Georges Bidault, French Foreign Minister, made public for the first time the French Government's attitude toward the possible attendance of the Lebanon States at the coming San Francisco Conference. The French Foreign Minister declared: "France is more than ever an advocate of collective security. I am making it a point of emphasizing this today to put an end to all reports and rumors to the contrary."

Bidault was asked by Charles de Guert, member of the Assembly, to define the French Government's attitude in the negotiations with Syria and Lebanon. De Guert said: "Certain officials and military officers have, notwithstanding our Allies, never recognized the existence of a French mandate in Syria. France has expended too much blood, too much money, and too much effort to consent to her influence being allowed to disappear."

In reply, Bidault defined the French policy in the Middle East as one of progress, freedom and loyalty. "France raises no objection to the presence of Syria and Lebanon at the San Francisco Conference," the Foreign Minister declared. "On the eve of a conference as important as that of San Francisco, it is essential that the position of France should not be weakened by rash suggestions."

ATTACK POWER OF ENEMY EAST OF MANILA WEAKENS

Americans Flee With Heavy Losses From Height Near Montalban

By M. MURAMATSU
Of the Military Press Corps

PHILIPPINE FRONT, March 24.—In the fighting east of Manila, a decline has set in to the attack power of the enemy's left wing as a result of the typhonic Japanese close-quarter assaults and the death in combat of the enemy 6th division commander, Major General Edwin Patrick. Against the growing passivity of the enemy, the Japanese right wing is conducting still more furious close-quarter attacks.

On March 19, the enemy force which had moved to the height east of Montalban was forced to flee southwestward, cut to ribbons and sustaining heavy losses as a result of Japanese action. The enemy force holding a height south of that point also was unnerved on the same day by the furor of the Japanese attacks. Following the recovery of these two heights the Japanese subjected the enemy forces in the heights to the south to concentric trench mortar fire and active attacks.

The superiority of the enemy's artillery is being overcome by coordinated action between the Japanese infantry and artillery. Surprise shellings are conducted by the Japanese artillery and when the enemy artillery fire declines or ceases the Japanese infantry conducts terrifying close-quarter assaults.

Meanwhile, a close-quarter combat force raided the enemy ammunition dump at the projected site of the University of the Philippines, about six kilometers southwest of San Mateo, and caused violent explosions there. With the spiritual blow to the enemy apparently great, confusion is being noticed in the enemy setup.

The enemy right wing, however, is fighting with persistence and heavy shellfire is being concentrated on Shimbudai and Rekkayama to the southeast of San Mateo. Simultaneously, enemy troops have been infiltrating the Japanese positions. The Japanese are shelling the enemy's rear and also conducting operations to clear out the enemy, who, however, has not yet been repulsed, and a height to the southeast of Rekkayama fell into enemy hands on the night of March 19.

Enemy attacks against the Japanese left wing position east of Antipolo are also continuing and bitter fighting rages. At Chukodai, four kilometers east of Antipolo, the Japanese repulsed several enemy attacks conducted under the lead of tanks. The Japanese are fighting the enemy effectively, with hidden troops against infiltrating enemy troops and with units against concentrated enemy forces.

Anti-Fascist Move Ordered

Domei

BERLIN, March 24.—Confiscation of the property of Il Duce Mussolini and 53 other personages of the former Fascist regime was ordered by the Bonomi Government on Thursday, according to a Rome report. The list also includes Marshal Rodolfo Graziani, Count Dino Grandi, Bottai, Federzoni and Bocchini.

Cabinet Members Meet

An emergency Cabinet meeting was held at the Diet Building at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday. Various questions at hand were discussed by the Prime Minister and all the members of his Cabinet. The meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m.

Enemy Deck Planes Raid Okinawa Area; Task Force Is Active

By Courtesy of the Press Section

An aggregate total of about 200 to 300 carrier-borne planes from a detached U.S. task force attacked Okinawa on March 23. This task force was still making furtive moves in the waters off Okinawa on the following day.

130 B-29 BOMBERS AGAIN BLIND-BOMB NAGOYA CITY

Explosives and Incendiaries Dropped in Haphazard Attack, I.H.Q. Says

The Nagoya area was subjected to another blind bombing raid by the enemy during the small hours of Sunday morning when about 130 B-29's appeared over the city and carried out a haphazard attack by means of incendiaries and explosives, the Imperial Headquarters announced at Sunday noon.

It was also revealed that all the fires which broke out as a result of the attack had been extinguished by 4:50 a.m. of the same day and that the war results gained in the Japanese counterattacks against the enemy raiders were now being investigated.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
Noon, March 25

"Approximately 130 B-29 bombers raided the Nagoya district from about 12 a.m. on March 25 and dropped incendiaries and explosives in the city areas for about an hour and a half in an indiscriminate bombing attack. Due to the above bombings, fires broke out at various places within the city but all the blazes were extinguished by 4:50 a.m.

"As to the war results investigations are now under way."

8 B-29's Shot Down

About 130 bombers of the U.S. 21st Bomber Command coming from their base in the Mariana Islands appeared over the Shima Peninsula after concentrating their strength over the Southern Sea area late on Saturday night.

Divided into small formations or singly the B-29's indiscriminately bombed the city areas of Nagoya with explosives and incendiaries for about one hour and a half from midnight. The enemy planes were flying at an altitude of 2,000 or 4,000 meters and they dropped flare bombs prior to the bombing attack.

As a result of the indiscriminate bombing attack, fires broke out at various places in the city and other damage was caused. Japanese Anti-Air Raid Forces, both officials and civilians, speedily went into action to fight the fires which were extinguished at about 4:50 a.m. on Sunday.

Investigations concerning the war results obtained by the Japanese air and land forces in their counter-attacking operations are now being made. Those ascertained up to about 2 a.m. were eight B-29's shot down besides a considerable number of others damaged.

In the meantime, a lone B-29 appeared over the eastern part of Shikoku and then flew over Okayama and the Hanshin district for about one hour from 1 a.m. The enemy raider fled in the direction of the Shima Peninsula after dropping a few explosives in paddy fields east of Fuse.

Along with the activities of the U.S. task forces, the future operations of the Mariana-based B-29's are now being watched closely.

The new raid on Nagoya was featured by the fact that the enemy airmen used flare bombs to light up their objectives before dropping their bombs, while the period of attack was shortened. Moreover, the enemy used both incendiaries and explosives during the raid.

Wants Don Juan Expelled

Domei

ZURICH, March 24.—The Swiss Socialist newspaper, Volksrecht, today demanded the expulsion of Prince Don Juan, pretender to the Spanish throne, on the ground that foreigners staying in Switzerland are forbidden to carry on political activities.

"Don Juan's manifesto, calling on General Francisco Franco to resign, issued from the fashionable Lausanne hotel," said the paper, "is highly political propaganda. It would be better termed an intrigue."

SHINPU PLANES ATTACK TASK FORCE AT ULUTHI

Damage Plane Carrier—Nippon Fliers Raid Air Bases on Luzon, I.H.Q. Says

At least one enemy first-line aircraft carrier was severely damaged and set ablaze in an attack conducted by the Azusa Unit of the Shinpu Special Attack Corps against enemy task forces anchored at Uluthi on March 11, it was announced by the Imperial Headquarters on Sunday at 3 p.m. The same Imperial Headquarters communique also disclosed that Japanese Air Units attacked enemy air bases and anchored transport groups at San Fabian and Lingayen on Luzon on March 22, turning the airfield areas into a field of flame and exploding and setting ablaze two transports.

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
3 p.m. March 25

"1—The Azusa Unit of the Shinpu Special Attack Corps, on the night of March 11, attacked enemy task forces at anchor at Uluthi in the West Carolines group.

"In regard to the battle results of this attack, several pillars of flame were seen at that time and it has become clear through later investigations that at least one enemy regular aircraft carrier was heavily damaged and set ablaze.

"2—Our Air Units, on March 22, attacked the enemy air bases and anchored transport groups at San Fabian and Lingayen on Luzon, causing great explosions at two places and setting ablaze 20 points, turning the region of the airfields into a field of flame, besides causing explosions on two transports and setting them ablaze."

Enemy Admits Losses

Domei

LISBON, March 25.—Headquarters of the U.S. Pacific Fleet today announced that one of their destroyers was heavily damaged and another large warship was slightly damaged in the first American admission of the two-day air engagement of March 20 and 21 between the carrier-planes of the U.S. 5th Fleet and Japanese Air Units from Shikoku, Kyushu and other bases, according to a Guam dispatch.

U.S. Task Force Flees

By Courtesy of the Press Section

The U.S. 58th task force with 10-odd regular plane carriers as its mainstay has now fled to the southern sea area after sustaining heavy losses. The attacks on western Japan on March 18 and 19 were made by this task force.

With the aim of raiding Japan Proper using Yiojima as an intermediary base, the enemy is now massing B-24 and B-25 bombers as well as P-38 fighters in the Mariana Island area.

U.S. ADMITS CARRIER LOSS

Bismarck Sea, New Navy Unit, Sunk By Japanese Off Yiojima

Domei

LISBON, March 24.—Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced today the loss of the U.S. escort aircraft carrier, Bismarck Sea, in the Japanese air attack off Yiojima on February 21, according to a Washington dispatch.

The official release reported that fires broke out on the ship and spread out of control. Captain John Lockwood Pratt made every effort to save the carrier before ordering the personnel to abandon the ship, the dispatch said.

The vessel, of 2,200 tons, built at the Kaiser Shipyards last year, was not long in commission when lost. It had been assigned to the Yiojima area after similar duties in the landings in Lingayen Gulf on Luzon. (Nimitz did not disclose the size of the crew which probably exceeded 1,000 men). Japanese planes scored a vulnerable hit on the starboard side. There were two big explosions. Torpedoes and two newly-gassed planes on the carrier spread the fire, the report said.

The sea was rough and several men drowned.

The Bismarck Sea was the 11th carrier the United States is known to have lost in the war, all but one in the Pacific.

AP correspondent Robert Geiger has reported that another unidentified carrier went down together with the Bismarck Sea, but Nimitz's Headquarters has not made a confirmation or a denial of this sinking.

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The American Note to the Soviet Union

The recent United States Government's note to the Soviet Union which stated that some aspects of the political situation in Rumania require consultation among the "Big Three" in accordance with the agreement reached at Yalta provides another illustration of the ubiquitous character of the United States' interventionist policy. The present note is, of course, not as caustic as United States Secretary of State Edward Stettinius' warning of last year to Britain to keep her hands off Italian domestic affairs, but the note does contain an open hint that the United States strongly disapproves of the Soviet Union's methods of handling Rumania.

The action of the United States is of particular significance in that it is not a unilateral diplomatic move on her part. The action is receiving the fullest support of the British Government which has already adopted a very hostile attitude toward the Soviet Union over the Rumanian question by extending shelter to the former Rumanian Premier Nicolai Radescu at the British legation quarters at Bucharest. The fact that the British have given refuge to this ex-Premier whose Cabinet was allegedly ousted by the Soviet Union is clearly an indication that the Anglo-American countries harbor sinister political ambitions in Rumania and that their criticisms of the Soviet policy toward Rumania are purely an excuse for interference in the affairs of this Balkan country. The lavish sympathy which the Anglo-American countries are heaping on two other Rumanian officials, Maniu and Bratianu, who refused to join the present Croza Cabinet also strengthens the belief that these countries are seeking to utilize these anti-Soviet elements in their political scheme to open up the Balkans for their imperialistic advance.

The main criticisms of the Anglo-American countries against the Soviet actions in Rumania seem to be based on the ground that the Soviet Colossus has been interfering with the free exercise of "democratic" rights by the Rumanian people. The reason for this suspicion of the Anglo-American countries is apparently due to the fact that the present Croza Cabinet which was formed on March 6 is conspicuously dominated by the Communists. For instance, as the reports from these countries have pointed out, the premiership as well as the Ministries for Home Affairs, Education, Propaganda, Justice and Transportation, which are the key positions in the Cabinet, are in the hands of Communist politicians.

These criticisms, however, are hardly tenable. For it is a fact that the governments which have been set up in Greece, Italy, and in the other "liberated" countries of Western Europe do not represent the popular will of the peoples in these countries any more than the Croza government set up by the Soviet Union in Rumania. It will be remembered moreover that, according to the agreement reached between Britain and the Soviet Union and "initialled and agreed to" by President Franklin Roosevelt last year, Greece was recognized as the British sphere of influence and Rumania as the Soviet sphere of influence, and that in accordance with this agreement the British set out to establish a government in Greece which would be a compliant British puppet. This she has already done by removing the pro-Soviet "ruffian gangs and ruffians" from the seat of power in Greece. Is the Soviet Union to be denied the same right to establish friendly governments on her western borders as a measure of defense when the British have already formed a pro-British regime in Greece in order to protect what they call their life-line to India? The British might well recall in this connection that the Soviet Union did not give refuge to any ELAS leader during the period of civil strife in Greece nor interfere in any other manner with the British affairs in that country. They might also recall with profit the warning given out by the Soviet press in the early part of last year that unless the Anglo-American countries stopped meddling in the affairs of Eastern Europe, Poland and Finland, the Soviet Union would demand a voice in the affairs of the Western European countries.

Yalta agreement or no Yalta agreement, there can hardly be any doubt that the Soviet Union will pursue in Rumania the same independent policy which she adopted toward Poland. That such must be so is apparent when it is considered that the present political dispute, unlike the recent dispute over the alleged Soviet removal of Rumanian oil equipment, is a vital issue affecting the future security and national interests of the Soviet Union. Obviously, therefore, the Soviet Union cannot give in too readily to the Anglo-American countries over this question without weakening her control over the Balkans and her ties with the Tito regime in Yugoslavia.

The developments in Rumania thus furnish an interesting pointer into the difficulties which will confront the coming San Francisco Conference when the "Big Three" take up the question of the position of the regional security machinery within the proposed international peace organization. The Act of Chapultepec, the principles of which the United States will no doubt seek to incorporate in the new charter of the projected peace machinery, clearly bars the intervention by foreign Powers in the affairs of the Western Hemisphere, but it does not mean the renunciation by the United States of her policy of intervention, economic, diplomatic or military, in other sections of the world. The question that arises here is whether the creation of such regional security machineries within the proposed peace organization is to mean the recognition of the predominant position of the "Big Three" in their respective spheres of influence in which they would be scot-free to carry on their independent policies without outside interference from any Power or from the world peace machinery itself. It is hardly thinkable that the Kremlin authorities would agree at the coming San Francisco Conference to any regional security arrangement which would permit the United States to interfere in the affairs of the Soviet spheres of influence when, at the same time, the United States would bar foreign intervention in her own spheres of influence in the American Continents. The events now unfolding in Rumania merit close watching, because they will put to the acid test not only the Yalta agreement but also the whole question of the soundness of world peace machinery proposed by the Anglo-American countries.

A Year Ago Today

March 26, 1944

An enemy formation consisting of some 60 fighter planes and ship-based bombers attacked Kavieng on New Ireland Island in the morning, but was immediately repulsed by the Japanese Garrison Force there. Damage on our side was negligible.

• • •

A four-engined enemy plane attacked Simeuloee toward midnight. The Japanese Garrison there immediately beat it off, inflicting heavy damage on it. No damage was sustained by our side.

• • •

New Fighter Plane Units of the Imperial Japanese Army attacked and inflicted heavy blows on the enemy air-transported troops at a point east of Monin. In a large formation, the Army Wild Eagles launched a severe bombing and strafing attack on the enemy who struggled desperately after having been encircled by our Ground Units.

• • •

Four enemy B-25 bomber planes attacked our position at Reihin in the southern part of Hainan Island in the afternoon. Acting in unison with our Fighter Plane Units, the Japanese Ground Forces stationed there went into action against the raiders, damaging one of them and repulsing all the others. Damage on the Japanese side was negligible.

AMERICAN PROPAGANDA EXPOSED

U.S. Authorities Are Past Masters Of Fabricating Falsehoods

By TSURUMATSU OKAMOTO

II

However, we are convinced that they will continue to be ignorant of this Anglo-American attitude. But the Chinese masses will wake up to their real situation as soon as they come to have their racial consciousness. It is because of this that the United States extremely fears that the Chinese one day may come to have such a racial consciousness. For this reason the Japanese policy of racial equality is being directed to the sore spot of the United States. Pearl Buck, who had been in China since her childhood has been concerned over the discriminatory policy of America toward China and has advised the American Government authorities to extend equal treatment to the colored peoples after the war. Pearl Buck has also been denouncing the cruel American treatment of the Negroes, pointing out lack of understanding on the part of the American masses regarding racial problems. The Negro problem is a domestic problem of the United States which she may solve as she wishes, but the racial problem of the Oriental peoples is difficult of solution for the United States because of the very fact that Japan as a strong power in East Asia is fighting for the independence emancipation of the billion peoples of the region.

Pearl Buck has been entertaining much apprehension regarding this matter and has been advocating equal treatment of the colored peoples in her lectures and articles contributed to various magazines and newspapers. She regards with much concern Japan's advocacy of equal racial treatment for all peoples, thereby challenging the racial superiority complex of the white peoples of America and has been asking for restraint in their relations with the colored races.

But it is clear that the United States would never continue her policy of racial equality toward Chungking, she if succeeds in securing world domination. It is a foregone conclusion that she would abandon this policy of racial equality which she has adopted as a means of defeating Japan and securing the friendship of others against our country, and America will again treat the Chinese masses like dogs.

Fighting for World Domination

Now, it should be noted once and for all that the United States is waging the present war with all her might not for the sake of defending democracy. As is clear from the perusal of books written by such men as Spykeman, Lippmann and Grew, the United States is fighting for her ambition of world domination. But certainly the United States cannot sacrifice the lives of her nationals for the sake of her world domination, because the American people would never consent to such a war aim. Thus, the American ruling class must seek its war aim in some other source. The American war leaders adopted the defense of democracy as America's principal war aim and for this purpose they took up the problem of defending the American Continent against the aggression of the Axis nations. They declare that in order to attain the object of protecting the American Continent, it is necessary to drive out the German power from Europe and Japanese power from East Asia. The American war leaders have thus united the defense of democracy to their true war aim, namely, securing of world hegemony and thus trying to fuse the two paradoxical objects.

It is possible that all of the people of the ruling class in America do not at heart entertaining such an ambition. Some of them may really believe that the United States would not be able to defend democracy and protect the American Continent, unless she succeeded in securing world domination. The fact is that the American masses have swallowed the propaganda of Roosevelt and his faction. And this is why they have so far succeeded in making the heterogeneous people of America form a united front. However, it is highly doubtful if such a national unity can be maintained without being affected by the progress of war. The fact that there has been an increasing number of industrial strikes in the United States reveals the weakness of American national solidarity. Certainly their unity of purpose will be seriously affected the moment the American masses come to know the real war aims of the Roosevelt Administration. This will be true whether America should win or lose. If she should win, her national morale will be decayed because of the undue optimism on the part of the people; if she should lose, the people will rise against those holding the government reins, and the opinion of the isolationist group will get the upper hand.

It is because of their apprehension for such a state of affairs in America that the war leaders in that country are engaged in carrying on domestic propaganda assiduously. Thus, the best policy of propaganda for the Axis nations is to point out the fallacies of the arguments presented by American propagandists such as Lippmann, Spykeman and Grew. This counter propaganda on our part should be directed toward the United States, neutral nations and the peoples of the Orient. This propaganda war will not be less important than armed contests. So long as the enemy nations consider propaganda as an essential part of their strategies, our nation should be prepared against such a form of war.

OUTRAGEOUS ACTIONS OF AMERICAN AIRCRAFT

By JUJI ENOMOTO
Professor in the Naval War College, and Secretary in the Navy Ministry

I. Means of Warfare Are Not Unrestricted.

That the object of war in the military sense lies in the complete subjugation of the enemy at the earliest possible period with the least possible expenditure in men and material is a thesis frequently propounded by American scholars; and that thesis has been incorporated in an Article in the instructions governing rules of warfare issued by the American Government many years ago. There is no doubt some justification for such a thesis; but once in the hands of a rash commander overzealous to obtain speedy victory, there is grave danger that all rules of warfare will be ignored, and that outrages contrary to humanity and which neither heaven nor man can condone will be the result.

It is an indisputable principle of international law that there exist certain restrictions governing the means of warfare between civilized peoples. Indiscriminate killing and destruction are certainly not permitted. One of the considerations that led to the development of the above principle was the calculation of advantages and disadvantages accruing from such restrictions; e.g. the fear that the employment of barbarous methods of warfare would arouse world opinion against the guilty state; the danger of reprisal; the relatively small advantage to be gained from occupying a badly devastated city; etc. That, however, was a minor consideration; the principal one being that based on man's conscience and concept of chivalry and humanitarianism. This principle therefore is one which ought not only to be applied to modern wars, but should remain in force for the future.

The restrictions based on the above principle extend also to the question of injuries to enemy combatants, but their most fundamental point is concerned with the distinction between combatants and non-combatants and the protection of innocent non-combatants from the ravages of war. The Hague Convention of 1907 Respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land contains numerous provisions governing this point; and all Powers have instructed their military forces that those provisions are to be strictly observed.

II. Rules to Be Observed in Aerial Warfare.

The First Hague Peace Conference held in 1899 adopted a convention prohibiting the discharge of projectiles and explosives from balloons; but that convention, of course, is hardly applicable today. The Hague Convention Respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land, Article 25, stipulates that "The attack or bombardment, by whatever means, of towns, villages, habitations, or buildings which are not defended, is prohibited." While that provision ought to be applicable also to aerial warfare by reason of the use of the words "by whatever means", that alone would hardly suffice to regulate aerial warfare in all its phases. That Article, moreover, gives rise to many doubtful questions when applied in practice, and hence is not considered suitable for practical application today.

Consequently there is now no written regulation concerning aerial warfare that belligerents may conduct aerial warfare. But to conclude therefrom that belligerents may conduct aerial warfare without any restraints whatever would be both hasty and erroneous. For it is only reasonable to hold that the principle of international law governing restrictions on means of warfare apply to aerial warfare as well.

The draft convention on aerial warfare adopted at The Hague by the Commission of Jurists to Consider and Report upon the Revision of the Rules of Warfare in 1923, while it did not become a treaty, was the product of most careful deliberation by delegates of America, Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan and the Netherlands, and is not only in accordance with the principle of international law but fully meets all military needs as based on the opinion of technical experts. As such, it is still the most important document of its kind in existence today.

The Japanese Navy has already used this draft convention as reference material in regulating the conduct of its air force in the Sino-Japanese Affair; and that policy has not been altered since the commencement of the War of Greater East Asia. The other Powers, too, have almost without exception adopted the purport of this draft convention and have incorporated it in the instructions issued to their respective air forces. The tentative instructions for the U.S. Navy governing maritime and aerial warfare issued in 1941 is an instance in point.

III. Substance of the Rules Relating to Aerial Warfare Adopted in 1923.

The object of the rules relating to aerial warfare is to command respect for the rights of neutral States in so far as the persecution of the war is not hindered thereby; and to distinguish between combatants and non-combatants, as well as between military works, establishments and supplies and non-military works, establishments and supplies, to the end that any needless spread of the ravages of war and the useless taking of lives and wanton destruction of property might thereby be prevented.

The above object is made clear in the statement made by the American delegate, John Bassett Moore at the 22nd Plenary Session held on February 12, 1923, when he presented America's proposal on aerial bombardment. That statement, in substance, was as follows:

Among the elementary principles which the development of modern rules of warfare had been designed to establish and confirm, the principle most fundamental in character, the observance of which the detailed regulations had largely been designed to assure, was the distinction between combatants and non-combatants, and the protection of non-combatants against injuries not incidental to military operations against combatants.

The Commission had already adopted rules intended to secure the protection of buildings used for various purposes and particularly of historic monuments. The protection of the lives of non-combatants, including women and children, would seem to demand consideration at least equal to that shown for inanimate objects.

Not only did the preservation of the distinction between combatants and non-combatants, especially as affected by aerial bombardment, loom larger in the public mind than any other question before the Commission, but it occupied a similar position in the proceedings of the Washington Conference, the work of which Conference the Commission had been appointed to continue and complete.

The sense in which the Commission was expected to find a solution was shown not only by the discussions in the Washington Conference, but also by the very terms of the original invitation to that Conference, which specified as one of its objects the formation of proposals by which in the interest of humanity the use of new agencies of warfare might be suitably controlled.

In the acts of the Washington Conference, and particularly in those restricting the use of submarines and prohibiting the use of poisonous gases, there was no room for doubt that the great purpose by which the Conference was inspired and controlled was the preservation of the fundamental principle to which he had just referred.

The Commission was now face to face with the question of preserving this great principle, for the benefit of the present generation and of future generations. It was therefore to be hoped that all the members of the Commission would concentrate their efforts toward the solution of this vital question, and that with regard to the detailed regulations, they would be animated by a spirit of mutual concession in order to attain their common object.

The important points in the Draft Rules of Aerial Warfare (of 1923) bearing on the question of aerial bombardment (including forms of attack other than bombardment), which prohibit irregular bombardment and the bombardment of non-military objectives and of cities and towns not located in close proximity to areas in which land forces are operating, are as follows:

(1) Aerial bombardment for the purpose of terrorizing the civilian population, of destroying or damaging private property not of military character, or of injuring non-combatants is prohibited.

(2) Aerial bombardment is legitimate only when directed at a military objective, that is to say, an object of which the destruction or injury would constitute a distinct military advantage to the belligerent.

Such bombardment is legitimate only when directed exclusively at the following objectives: (a) military forces, (b) military works, (c) military establishments or depots (d) factories constituting important and well-known centers engaged in the manufacture of arms, ammunition or distinctively military supplies, and (e) lines of communication or transportation used for military purposes.

(3) The bombardment of cities, towns, villages, dwellings or buildings not in the immediate neighborhood of the operations of land forces is prohibited. In cases where the objectives specified in paragraph (2) are so situated that they cannot be bombarded without the indiscriminate bombardment of the civilian population, the aircraft must abstain from bombardment.

(4) In bombardment by aircraft, all necessary steps must be taken by the commander to spare as far as possible buildings dedicated to public worship, art, science or charitable purposes, historic monuments, hospital ships, hospitals and other places where the sick and wounded are collected, provided that such buildings, objects or places are not at the time used for military purposes.

IV. Conduct of the American air force in the War of Greater East Asia

The air forces of our army and navy are at all times under order to strictly abstain from attacks upon non-military objectives, even to the extent of returning to their bases with their load of bombs undischarged in the event of inability to find the military objectives sought. In the operations of our air forces against America not once has an illegitimate attack been made.

In the operations of the American air force, on the contrary, extreme irregularity would appear to be the general rule. For far from selecting their objectives with any particular care, American airmen have repeatedly and complacently directed their ruthless attack even against shrines, temples, hospitals and hospital ships—all of them objectives which call for protection with special care.

Nor has there been any selection of military objectives in their attacks upon cities. Rather, with deliberate intention of wreaking ruthless devastation, American aircraft have hurled their projectiles, principally incendiary bombs, indiscriminately over areas in which large numbers of non-combatants are thickly massed together. In particular, the recent American raids on Tokyo and the other leading urban centers could not have been more wanton and barbarous even if animated by a deliberate intention to wipe out the entire civilian population. It is only in special exigencies where land forces are operating in the immediate neighborhood that a city itself becomes a legitimate objective of attack. Attack upon a city under any other circumstances is not to be permitted or excused. Nor can it be said that the use of incendiary bombs for the purpose of destroying or damaging civilian dwellings is a legitimate method of war.

American aircraft, when raiding singly or in small formations, have invariably discharged bombs and incendiary projectiles wholly at random and even without any pretence of aiming at any particular objectives. As a result, the damage inflicted has sometimes been upon urban areas, sometimes upon fishing villages, and at times even upon isolated farm houses or open fields. The promiscuity of their aim is indeed astounding. Although American headquarters have boasted of their precision instruments by the use of which they claim to be able to direct their attack accurately even from above the clouds or in heavy fog, the plain fact is that the areas which have suffered damage from the attacks of American aircraft have, with rare exceptions, been those in which nothing of military character was located.

V. Conclusion.

It must therefore be said that the operations of the American air force are conducted, in most cases, with the object of terrorizing the civilian population, of destroying or damaging private property not of military character, or of injuring non-combatants, and result in the perpetration of outrages of the most flagrant kind which are inconsistent with the fundamental principle of international law and in complete disregard of international customs based on decency and morality.

Can it be that the lofty sentiments to which John Bassett Moore, the American delegate, gave expression at The Hague in February of 1923 at the 22nd Plenary Session of the Commission of Jurists already mentioned strikes no respondent chord in the hearts of the American soldier of today? President Roosevelt, in a message addressed to each of the belligerent Powers in September of 1939, appealed for a public affirmation of "its determination that its armed forces shall in no event, and under no circumstances, undertake the bombardment from the air of civilian populations." Earlier, in September of 1937, President Roosevelt's duly accredited representative in Tokyo, the then Ambassador Grew, delivered to our Minister for Foreign Affairs a note containing the following sentence: "This Government (i.e. the American Government) holds the view that any general bombing of an extensive area wherein there resides a large population engaged in peaceful pursuits is unwarranted and contrary to the principles of law and humanity." And now that the armed forces under his own command are showing by their inhumane and ruthless actions that they have lapsed into barbarism, one wonders with what gall President Roosevelt can muster courage sufficient to face the world.

While America appears to be ignoring the law in pursuit of a design to bring the whole world under its control by the use of ruthless force, it may not be amiss to point out that such a design, far from promoting world peace and human welfare, serves only to fan the fires of hatred and to strengthen the will to wreak vengeance.

MENGCHIANG'S THRIVING INDUSTRIES

Country Transformed by Rapid Industrial Development

I

Whenever we mention the name of Mengchiang, one is apt to think that we are referring to that great stretch of undeveloped country located in a remote section of the Asiatic Continent. Few will believe that here in this remote land there exist thriving modern industries. But this is now a thing of the past. Mengchiang of today is vastly different from what it was before the pre-China Affair: many modern industries are now being rapidly developed as in her neighboring states, Manchoukuo and North China.

True, it is that owing to her geographical situation, separated as she is by several hundred kilometers from the nearest coast line, she is somewhat behind other sectors on the continent in the attainment of industrial development. Moreover, due to a lack of insight and leadership under the old regime, the development of her essential industries was sadly neglected. This was reflected in the existence of only a few flour milling and spinning plants, as was the case before the China Affair. The other industries were small-scale household undertakings, consequently her cereals and minerals were shipped outside without being processed. This was true also of her livestock. The largest part of her finished daily necessities were imported from the Peking, Tientsin, and Shanghai markets.

Thus, prior to the China Affair there was practically no industry worth mentioning, but with the birth of her new regime an entirely different industrial condition has prevailed. Following the reform of her administrative affairs, there have sprung up almost overnight all sorts of up-to-date industries, primarily to meet the increasing local demands. Then came in 1942 a five-year industrial reconstruction plan under the newly-born Mengchiang Federation Committee. Since then her essential industries have been established in rapid succession, including electric power, transportation, telegraph, and telephone. Besides these, the development of coal and iron mining has been rapidly pushed, thus causing a general promotion of her industrial undertakings, and when the Federation Committee was reorganized into the present Mengchiang Federated Autonomous Government, we saw a further improvement with the existing basic industries put under the management of special and semi-special companies.

These industries came to be chartered by the Government according to the amount of capital invested, material and labor used, and fuel utilized. Under this plan came the manufacture of flour, tobacco, matches, textiles, cement, and carbide.

Present Condition

Now let us briefly observe the present condition of these various industries which are engaged in the manufacture of food products for the purpose of meeting domestic needs.

The flour mill industry: Prior to China Affair the milling of flour was done in small plants by using stone mortars run by electricity. Consequently a large part of the flour was imported, but since the China Affair Japanese capital has flowed in, bringing about the rise of modern flour mills. The following is a list of leading flour mill companies in Mengchiang:

Names	Date of establishment	Capital
Paotow Flour Co.	July 11, '38	¥180,000
Howho Flour Milling Company	July 3, '38	400,000
Japan-Mengchiang Flour Company	Feb. 29, '41	1,000,000
Yipao Flour Company	Nov. 13, '41	80,000
Tatung Flour Milling Company	Jan. 10, '39	550,000
Shuipao Flour Co.	Sept. 29, '41	70,000

Wheat for these mills is purchased and stored by the Material Regulation Committee. The processing end is left with the Mengchiang Mechanical Flour Mill Council, and after the product is stored it is distributed according to the distribution regulations.

Sake and others: Japanese sake and synthetic sake are manufactured at 132 plants; miso or bean paste at 6 different plants; soy at 10 plants; cider at 2 plants; beer at 1 plant; table vinegar at 4 plants; sauce at 3 plants; and wine at 3 plants.

Like flour milling the largest part of this industry was formerly left in the hands of private households, but recently, there have been innovations. There is a prospect of making this product a substitute food for the people of this country, and turning it into a product for chemical uses.

Tobacco: This industry was formerly dependent upon imports from the Anglo-American Tobacco Trust in China and other sources. Since February, 1940 there has been in existence an independent firm called the Toyo Tobacco Company which is capitalized at ¥10,000,000. This was a subsidiary of the Toyo Spinning Company. It is the only tobacco concern in Mengchiang. The company began to operate in October, 1940, manufacturing both cigarettes and cut tobacco on a self-sufficiency basis.

Oil extraction: In Mengchiang edible oil is next in importance to flour. Formerly, the manufacture of edible oil was left with the households; and the deficiency was made up by imports, but recently this work has been put under the charge of the Kanegafuchi Spinning Company. As raw materials, mustard and poppy seeds are used with the necessary machinery imported from Japan. The prospect of this industry developing into a modern enterprise is very bright.

Chemical Industries

Match manufacturing: The present output of matches is more than enough to meet all domestic needs. Owing to the difficulty now found in getting calcium chloride it is operated with a view to meeting domestic demands only. Those engaged in this business are the Mengchiang Match Manufacturing Company, established on April 19, 1939, with a capital of ¥500,000 and the Kan Match Manufacturing Company established on July 2, 1940, with a capital of ¥185,000.

Carbide manufacturing: This product has been used not only in welding and lighting but recently it has also come to be used as a substitute for gasoline. In November, 1941, the Toa Electric Chemical Industry came into existence with a capital of ¥1,000,000 to meet the increased domestic demand.

Paper manufacturing: This line of industry was hitherto considered almost impossible of realization because of the lack in Mengchiang of pulp. Recently, however, this industry also has been forging ahead by using both substitute and reclaimed pulp, besides whatever wood pulp was available. In other words, by utilizing old paper and cloth is has done away with the supposed pulp, and is able to fill all local paper needs.

(To Be Concluded)

PROPHET OF U.S. GLOOM

New Book Predicts Dark Future For America

No boom—a depression.
19,000,000 unemployed.
Big business getting bigger; small businesses shrinking, some businesses dying off entirely.
No income-tax relief for the plain citizen; considerable tax relief for big business—which will be ineffective in warding off a collapse.
Labor—especially the C.I.O. in full retreat.
Dangerous cleavages between ex-servicemen and civilians, white and black, Jew and gentile, business and labor.

"War will be difficult to prevent for more than a generation. In some forms and in some places this war will not really have to come to an end."

Such, in broad outline, are some of the gloomy predictions made in a book which is making talk in the U.S., says a recent issue of Time. The article continues: The book: The Rest of Your Life (Doubleday, Doran, $2.75.) The author: Lee Cherne, young (31), curly-haired boss of Manhattan-famed Research Institute of America, Inc. Researcher Cherne has specialized in casting the U.S. business horoscope. His predictions have frequently been such flesh-creepers that New Yorkers once dubbed his institute "Cassandra, Inc."

Cassandra Cherne predicts that the U.S. will wind up with a possible 19,000,000 unemployed unless it raises its economy to a higher productive level than 1940's. He sees little chance of raising U.S. economy to such a point. For, says he, the expected roaring postwar boom will not occur; spotty prosperity will make some industries hum and others lag, while unemployment increases.

He believes that the "excess profits tax is doomed; it may not even survive the final stages of war itself." Government, in a frantic attempt to keep the economy running at high speed, will give business every tax inducement—piling on individuals the estimated $300,000,000,000 national debt.

Is there no hope for a postwar boom in the $100,000,000,000 which U.S. civilians have tucked away in savings? No, says Prophet Cherne. "Everything will compel you to hold on to your money rather than spend it. . . . There will be termination (of war contracts), unemployment . . . home pay will fall because of the reduction in hours and overtime. You're going to wait for prices to come down . . . for new products. . . . Most important, the war economy didn't tighten your belt too uncomfortably. . . . You haven't been starved enough so you'll want to rush out madly and buy. People won't be letting go." In effect he dismisses the everyone-will-buy-a-helicopter kind of talk by implying that there won't be helicopters for sale, and if there were, you couldn't afford one, because you'll be filling your stocking for the big depression.